

THE DEPARTMENT WORKERS

Interesting Gossip Gleaned Among Employees of Government Bureaus.

AN UNRECONSTRUCTED SOUTHERNER'S VISIT

General Toombs' Diplomatic Call Upon General Grant, as in a Foreign Country, Recalled by a Georgian--Popular Men in the Land Office.

At a recent meeting of the Columbia Historical Society one of the speakers referred to Gen. Robert Toombs, of Georgia, as a notable figure in politics before the civil war. A clerk in the Pension Office who is a citizen of Georgia and who was well acquainted with the general, said today in connection with this famous Southerner.

"Gen. Robert Toombs was probably the most unique figure the South ever produced. Jurist, statesman, soldier, and farmer, he was successful at each of his many professions. In the antebellum days he was a very large planter in Wilkes county, Ga., and when he came to Washington to represent his State in the upper house of Congress, he brought with him a large staff of slaves, and he was accustomed to direct operations on his vast estate by daily telegrams to his overseer. In return he was wired every day as to condition of crops, rains, and other details connected with agriculture.

"This long distance farming was very remarkable, considering the fact that General Toombs was one of the leaders of the Southern faction in the Senate, who were then engrossed in the issues that led to secession. Though separated from his plantations by almost 1,000 miles, the general never erred in his judgment, and while others were losing money at farming he was piling up a large fortune.

"The general was considered one of the best speakers the South ever produced, and even after his retirement from public life, on rare occasions when he appeared in the Supreme Court of his State, he was the center of attention, and his words were received with the greatest interest.

"At one time during his career in the Senate he met and befriended Grant, then a young officer in the army, and a warm attachment sprang between the two. During President Grant's second term the general had occasion to appear before the Supreme Court, the first visit he had made to the Capital since he resigned his seat in the Senate to cast his lot with the South.

"Upon his arrival in the city he at once repaired to the White House and sent in a card to his one-time friend, who had become the country's Chief Executive. He was immediately shown into General Grant's private office, and was received most cordially. Toombs drew himself up, the very embodiment of dignity, and said:

"Mr. President, I have called upon you, sir, because I have always considered it my duty when visiting a foreign country to first pay my respects to its chief magistrate before proceeding with other business."

"Then, seizing the President's hand and almost wringing it off, he said: 'God bless you, Grant! It does me good to meet you once more.'"

Mr. Frederick Mechin, chief of division in the General Land Office, is one of the most popular men in the bureau. Mr.

A WOMAN BATTLES WITH HER RESCUER

A Deckhand Nearly Drowned by Would-be Suicide.

NEW YORK, April 22.—Suffering with hysteria and nervous exhaustion, Rose Osborne, a patient from Bellevue Hospital, attempted suicide yesterday afternoon by jumping from the Charlies ferryboat, Thomas S. Brennan, on which she was being taken to Blackwell's Island.

The woman was rescued only after a struggle with her rescuers, in which she nearly drowned one, and the other was so exhausted that he had to be sent to the hospital.

The Osborne woman maintained a quiet demeanor nearly to the end of her trip on the Brennan. When the boat neared Blackwell's Island, off Seventy-second Street, the captain found that the island slip was occupied by the steamer Minnahamock. The Brennan remained some distance off the pier awaiting its turn.

Rose Osborne came on deck and asked Mr. Brackett, the man in charge, to drive her to the lavatory. The next thing those on board knew of the woman was when the deckhands were attracted by the shrill and repeated blowing of a tugboat whistle farther up the stream. The men of this tug were pointing first at the Brennan's decks and then at the water. The deckhands rushed to the port side and caught a glimpse of a woman struggling in the water. Once she was down, then John Dalton, a deckhand, threw off his shoes and coat and jumped overboard. He reached the woman and endeavored to assist her. When she saw him coming she seemed to try to avoid him, and shouted:

"For God's sake, let me die! I have no reason to live! Please let me go!"

Dalton reached her side in an instant. She threw her arms about his neck and pulled him under the water. The patients on the Brennan crowded to the rail and watched the struggle in the water. Many of the patients were highly excited, but the attendants succeeded in keeping them quiet.

After the two had been struggling in the water for a minute or so, Stephen Murray, a deckhand on the tugboat William L. Strong, tied at the island, about fifty feet from the struggling pair, jumped into the water and started to help them. When he reached their side Dalton was making frantic but fruitless attempts to keep his head above water, and the woman, with her arms still about his neck, hung as a dead weight. She was unconscious. Murray took hold of the woman's left arm and succeeded in keeping her head up until the two could be taken aboard the tugboat William L. Strong, which had put out to the rescue.

Deckhands hauled the two aboard. Dalton collapsed as soon as he reached the deck of the tug. Murray was so nearly exhausted that he was sent with the other two to the Metropolitan Hospital, on the island. The three will recover.

Burglar's Visit Hastens Death.

JERSEY CITY, April 22.—John Keane, who was stricken with smallpox several days ago, died yesterday. A burglar forced an entrance into Keane's house on Sunday night, and it is believed the excitement attending the chase and capture of the burglar hastened his death.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought

THE PLAYER FOLK

The Harry Corson Clarke Company, which will inaugurate what is expected to be a rather prolonged spring engagement at the Columbia Theater next Monday night, when "What Happened to Jones" will be presented, will include a number of well-known players, prominent among whom are Lottie Alter, Laura Almosino, Florence Robinson, Helen Ware, Mary Kane, Laura Bryant, Lucia Huxford, John Westley, Thomas Forbes, Harry Norton, Henry Hockley, Thomas Phillips, and Thomas Hedeman.

During the stay of the Clarke company at the Columbia such popular farces as "Why Smith Left Home," "What Did Tomkins Do?" "In the Soup," and several others of a similar character will be presented.

The production of "In the Soup" will be one of the most interesting events of the spring season. It is an English farce, the American rights to which are owned by the Schubert and Casino Theaters, of New York. They have given Mr. Clarke the privilege of presenting the piece at the Columbia. The play has already won a line on its worth for production at the Herald Square Theater in the fall.

"In the Soup" has been immensely successful in England, and has enjoyed a full year's run, and the prospects are good that it will duplicate this popularity in the United States, as it is described as an extremely funny affair as farces go nowadays.

"The Wild Rose," the new Lederer production, was given its first trial at the Garrick Theatre, Philadelphia, Monday night, and was a great success. The success of the Quaker City review in their enthusiasm declared that it would equal in popularity "The Belle of New York."

Eddie Foy and Julie McCree are the chief funmakers in the piece. McCree is known chiefly for his connection with traveling burlesque companies of the sort that visit Kernan's in Washington. He was seen here last season at the Lyceum and showed much more than ordinary ability as a comedian.

A prediction was then made in The Times that he would make a name for himself if he ever got as far as his career as Broadway. Since last seen here McCree has been engaged at the Lyceum, and the conditions named. It was found by postoffice inspectors, who investigated the case, that Miss Coffey had one husband and no money, except that received from her daily visitors.

A copy of the charges was forwarded to the postmaster at Burnips Corners, who returned the papers, with the comment that Miss Coffey had left for part unknown with a man other than her husband. About 500 proposals remained uncalled for at Burnips Corners.

ARRESTED BEFORE HE COULD MARRY

Prospective Bridegroom, Just Released, Again in Jail.

PHILADELPHIA, April 22.—While serving a two years' sentence in the Eastern penitentiary for counterfeiting 50-cent pieces, William Lynch, a young man, had resolved to reform and get married. The young woman whom he admired had remained loyal to him and visited him at the big prison as often as the rules permitted. They had agreed upon the date for the wedding, but the arrangements were abruptly upset by the arrest yesterday of the prospective bridegroom.

Lynch's sentence expired at 9 o'clock yesterday morning and he and another man left the penitentiary together. They had only taken a few steps from the jail when Detectives Sells and Walker caught Lynch by the arm and said: "We want you."

Lynch's freedom was certainly of short duration and he was surprised at being arrested, although he knew that a warrant had been issued for him.

"This is pretty tough," he remarked to the detectives. "I thought that you would let me go free after being in prison so long."

Lynch was taken to the central police court, where, when arraigned, he was confronted by Oliver P. Wilson, of Sandiford, who accused him of having robbed his house more than two years ago. Lynch had been employed by Wilson and is alleged to have stolen three rings, a watch chain, and several other articles.

"Everything testified against me is true," said the prisoner to the magistrate, "and I suppose it is a case of going back to the mines again."

"Right you are," remarked the magistrate. "I will hold you in \$600 bail for trial." Lynch, who is also known by the name of "Lynch" Bryant, has been arrested several times before.

IRISH BILL AT OTTAWA.

Resolution Favoring Home Rule for Ireland to Be Introduced There.

OTTAWA, April 22.—It is understood that the Hon. John Costigan intends to offer in the House of Commons shortly a resolution favoring home rule for Ireland, and deploring the action of the British government in proclaiming the Land League.

All this, however, was nothing much out of the ordinary and the "Florodora" engagement would not go down in musical history as the very apex of a season of pleasurable happenings but it did lead to an incident that happened during the latter part of the week.

One of Washington's most noted women, the wife of a multi-millionaire, whose family occupies a rather exalted social position in Chicago, London, and India, gave a box party. The display of magnificent gowns was much admired by Mr. Musical Director, and marshaling the monotonous action, he turned to Sol Minster and said:

"Tell me, my good man, who is the matronly lady in the box?"

Mr. Minster replied: "That Mrs. So-and-so, the wife of Mr. So-and-so, the Chicago millionaire, and mother of Lady What's-her-name, of London and Calcutta."

"Oh, yes," the gentleman of the baton remarked, "I thought I had met her somewhere."

And if the Columbia orchestra did not do as good work as usual during the remainder of the performance, at least that night they were quite excusable, for even musicians must have an opportunity to enjoy themselves once in a while, even if the humor is not indicated in the author's manuscript.

Louis Mann and Clara Lipman will immediately upon the conclusion of their tour in "All on Account of Eliza" go to Europe in search of a suitable play for next season.

Miss Lipman at one time during the present season announced her determination to return to musical comedy, while Mr. Mann declared that henceforth serious drama would occupy his sole attention and mentioned Shylock as the character that would first command his talents.

Mr. Mann and Miss Lipman's season in "The Red Kloof" was so unprofitable that they were compelled to go back to Leo Detrichstein's "All on Account of Eliza," and even in this they have not been as successful as was expected.

Mr. Mann is an exceptionally clever German comedian, while his wife is quite

at home in musical comedy, but for some reason neither wants to keep to the paths that theatergoers, who have some rights in the case, would like to see them travel.

Bandmaster Innis is writing an opera, the libretto of which is the work of a hitherto unheard of writer for the stage, Fabre Martin, of Dowagiac, Mich. The piece has been christened "The Brides of the Tiger," but is said to be in no way related to the Great Lafayette's "The Lion's Bride."

Charles Ross and Mabel Fenton will return to vaudeville next season after some years spent at Weber & Fields and the New York Theater. Their initial effort will be a travesty on "Du Barry."

Sam Bernard is the latest deserter from the ranks of the Weber & Fields forces. Bernard expects to be a star next season. He made a similar attempt some three seasons ago in a very inglorious affair by Glen MacDonough, called "The Marquis of Michigan," but it lasted only a few weeks.

MANY WILLING TO LIVE AT BURNIPS CORNERS

Matrimonial Bait Attracted Hundreds of Men.

The Supposed Wealthy But Lonely Maid Had No Fortune Except Daily Contributions From Her Dupes.

NEW YORK, April 22.—Counterfeit postal cards in large quantities have recently been put in circulation in this and other cities, and postoffice inspectors are on the trail of certain persons whom they suspect are printing bogus postals from an old women's plate obtained in some way from the Treasury Department.

Notices were sent out yesterday from the general postoffice to every branch office and substation in this city warning postoffice employees to be on the lookout for the counterfeit postals.

Inspectors are of the opinion that an old Treasury plate is being used by the counterfeiters, from the fact that while the general design of the spurious postal is correct in most of the details the letters and lines are coarse and blurred.

The notice of warning reads: "This office is advised by the postoffice inspector in charge of this division that he has been informed of the circulation of a counterfeit postal card, which is described as follows: 'The name is not uniform. The card appears to be a counterfeit. The top of the name line runs together, while in the genuine card it is spaced. The word 'Jefferson' is in light face type, while in the genuine bold face type is printed. The paper on which the card is printed is a coated paper never used for postal cards. The whole appears to be a copy from an old worn plate.'"

Counterfeiting of postal cards is a new industry. Postoffice officials say that the probable reason for the counterfeit postals is that business houses are using increased numbers of them every year.

JAPANESE SHIPS MAY SAIL DIRECTLY HERE

Closer Communication Possible by New Line.

A new steamship line from Vladivostock, Russia, to Tientsin, Japan, has been announced in a dispatch to the State Department from R. T. Greener, American commercial agent at the former place.

The Kotzu Maru, of 1,200 gross tons and 922 register tons, which arrived recently, is the first ship of the new line, and receives a subsidy of \$70,000 from the Japanese government.

A Japanese paper (the "Tokyo Asahi") reports that the Chinese Eastern Company (a Russian organization) has made a contract with the Japanese government for the opening of this line, to last ten years. Japan is to pay the subsidy and the Chinese Eastern Company is to allow a certain number of Japanese to serve on its ships. Tsuruga is a new port on the west coast of Japan, opened to foreigners two and one-half years ago. The port has been greatly improved for steamer accommodation. The time from Vladivostock to Tsuruga is one and one-half days, and to Osaka, the great manufacturing city, less than twenty-four hours.

In connection with this line, the Chinese Eastern fleet will have direct communication with the United States. Whether Japanese ships or Russian are to sail to the United States is not quite clear. So far the Chinese Eastern steamers are concerned, it is said they cannot carry coal enough to cross the Pacific. One of them (the Byrae), launched in 1861, has just been examined and her boilers found useless.

While Russia is making strong efforts to extend her commerce in the East, she has been unable to do so in the Pacific. Her steamers come in and out of the Pacific from 16 to 200 tons of freight and from ten to twenty passengers, but they must be refueled in Japan in order to obtain the subsidy. Under present tariff conditions, it is not likely that freight will come to Vladivostock in large quantities.

How They Do It in New York. An uptown office where you can transact your business in the most satisfactory manner. Watches, Diamonds, & Jewelry. Anyone may own a nice watch and chain (day's or gent's). \$1 a week is all you pay—no money without one. Come and open an account.

J. DRUKKER, Cor. 12th and Pa. Ave., Room 3, Over the Hotel, Uptown. Old gold and silver taken in payment.

FIRE! FIRE!

A BIG STOCK OF NEW FURNITURE SACRIFICED AND ALMOST GIVEN AWAY.

The fire at L. Stein's Furniture Store, 416 Ninth Street, is still fresh in memory. By promptness of the Fire Department most of the Furniture was saved from any practical injury—A GREAT PORTION OF THE GOODS ARE NOT DAMAGED AT ALL, AND THE STOCK WAS NEW AND CAREFULLY SELECTED.

The Insurance Company Stands the Loss. The enormous crowds which have come during the first few days of the sale shows how soon this stock will melt away. TO GET WHAT YOU MUST COME QUICKLY.

The Sale Lasts Only Ten Days. We must vacate the building in ten days—and there are thousands of dollars' worth of goods to dispose of. Everything to Furnish a Home.

This stock contains everything in the Furniture line, as well as a large assortment of Pictures. Come! And get here as early as possible, so as to get the pick of the most wonderful bargains you ever saw in your life.

Bedroom Suites and Odd Pieces, Parlor Suites and Odd Pieces, Dining-room Suites and Odd Pieces, Sideboards, Extension Tables, Dining Chairs, China Closets, Easy Chairs, Rockers, Lace Curtains, Refrigerators, Mattings, Baby Carriages, Go-Carts, Dressers, Toilet Tables, Parlor Tables, Couches, Wardrobes, Iron Beds, Beddings, Springs, Mattresses, &c., &c.

All these goods have been bought within the past eight months, and there are no old or undesirable pieces among them. Remember, this entire stock must be sold within ten days.

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An Old Plate Has Been Taken Possession Of.

WARNING SENT BROADCAST

Spurious Production of United States Mailing Cards Can Easily Be Detected, But a Large Number Has Already Been Sold.

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GENERAL GREELY GOES TO WATCH EXPERIMENTS

Starts for North Carolina to Witness Telegraphy Tests.

Gen. A. W. Greely, Chief Signal Officer, and Captain Russell, of the Signal Corps, have gone to North Carolina to witness experiments in wireless telegraphy under a system invented by Willis L. Moore, Chief of the Weather Bureau, and Prof. Reginald Fessenden, Lieutenants Beecher and Hudgins, of the Bureau of Equipment, U. S. N., will leave here tonight for the same purpose.

Two stations have been established for the test, one at Roanoke Island, and the other at Cape Hatteras, about fifty miles apart. It is claimed by the inventors that their system is superior to any now in use. It has a telephonic receiver in place of the tape machine of the Marconi apparatus.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM SELF-DESTRUCTION

Bernard Murphy Inhales Gas at His Own Home.

Despondency Said to Have Caused the Act—The Sufferer Resuscitated at Emergency Hospital.

While despondent over financial matters Bernard Murphy, fifty-five years of age, living at 401 O Street northwest, made an unsuccessful effort to end his life this morning by inhaling illuminating gas in a room at his home. The Emergency Hospital ambulance was summoned and Murphy removed to that institution for treatment. He rallied quickly under the surgeon's care and was soon pronounced out of danger, but owing to the fact that he was suffering from a severe nervous shock was kept at the institution.

Although no definite statement could be secured from the unfortunate man the hospital authorities stated that he was in a despondent mood when he endeavored to take his own life.

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72-inch Pure Linen Half Bleached Undressed German Damask. Regular price, 80c. Special price, 50c.

72-inch Pure Linen Extra Heavy Quality Half Bleached Irish Damask. Regular price, 75c. Special price, 69c.

66-inch Extra Fine Quality Bleached Irish Satin Damask. Regular price, 70c. Special price, 69c.

68-inch Extra Fine Quality Bleached Irish Satin Damask. Regular price, 81c. Special price, 89c.

Size 2x2 1/2 yards Plain White Fringed German Damask Table Cloths. Regular price, \$2. Special price, \$1.75.

Size 2x2 1/2 yards Silver Bleached German Damask Pattern Table Cloths. Regular price, \$2.99. Special price, \$1.69.

Size 22-inch Pure Linen Undressed Silver Bleached German Damask Napkins. Regular price, \$1.82 1/2. Special price, \$1.39.

Size 1/2 Pure Linen Heavy Quality Irish Damask Napkins, hemmed ready for use. Special, 1 dozen, \$1.25.

Size 2x2 1/2 yards Plain White Fringed German Damask Table Cloths. Regular price, \$2. Special price, \$1.75.

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